

THE GAMBLING MANIA.

How it Flunged Itself at One Time in the French Capital.

Some of the old stories told of the gaming tables can hardly be believed nowadays, though they are related in such a cool, matter of fact style by writers of the time as to show that in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries the practice formed a part of high class social existence. Captain Gronow relates that, having been appointed to the staff of General Picton, who was then starting for Brussels (1815), he obtained \$1,000 from the army agents, "which," he continues, "I took with me to a gambling house in St. James' square, where I managed, by some wonderful accident, to win \$600." With this sum he subsequently provided his necessary outfit.

When the allies marched into Paris after the battle of Waterloo, Gronow found the Palais Royal a hotbed of gambling—"the very heart of French dissipation." "There were tables for all classes. The workman might play with 20 sous or the gentleman with 10,000 francs. The law did not prevent any class from indulging in a vice that assisted to fill the coffers of the municipality of Paris." The English visitors were not slow to participate in the play, one officer of the guards obtaining leave of absence and never quitting the Palais Royal till the time came for his return to the regiment.

Large fortunes were often lost at gambling in those days, the losers disappearing never more to be heard of. Lord Thanes, for instance, who had an income of \$250,000 a year, lost every farthing as play and, concludes Gronow, "I do not remember any instance where those who spent their time in this den did not lose all they possessed."

FLOWERS IN MEXICO.

So Plentiful That They Are Used For Great Public Decorations.

As a people the Mexicans are very fond of flowers, and every village, town and city has its place where flowers are sold, and many of the larger places have extensive flower markets. Often the flowers brought to the market are wild specimens found in the woods and the fields, but all are beautiful. In many of the smaller towns and villages the public parks and the sidewalks of the streets are used as places for the sale of flowers. Everywhere they may be bought at surprisingly low prices. So plentiful are flowers they are used for great public decorations. Sometimes whole parks and the fronts of buildings for many streets are covered with floral decorations on a feast day.

The Mexican love of flowers has been inherited from a long line of flower loving ancestors. More than a thousand years ago the chief feature of worship among the Toltecs was the great floral offering which was made to the fair god once a year and which lasted for a whole Mexican week. During this festival one of the features was a great floral procession, which traversed the principal streets of the city to the sound of musical instruments. Every one in the procession carried flowers to lay upon the altar of the god or to place upon the steps or walls of his temple. In this procession were princes, nobles, priests and commoners. This floral festival was an expression of the love of nature for which the Toltecs were noted. Until they came into contact with the Aztecs later on in history they were purely nature worshippers, and flowers and fruits formed the chief part of their offerings. So the Mexican comes by his love of flowers honestly.

Intermarrying Among Rooks.

Among the odd habits of rooks is the way that members of the same rookery have of intermarrying generation after generation. The males always choose their wives from their near neighbors, and if one should be so bold as to bring home to his rookery a bride from a distance the other rooks will invariably refuse to receive her and will force the pair to build some way off. In the neighborhood of big rookeries outlying nests of this kind may always be found.

Belgium Marriages.

In Belgium it is the custom to give certificates of marriages in the form of little books, which also contain a summary of the marriage laws and among a mass of other miscellaneous information directions for the feeding and care of infants. There are also places for entering the names and birthdays of the children of the marriage, the authorities considerably affording space for twelve such entries.

Always Something Wrong.

Clerk—Please, sir, can I have a week's vacation? Employer—What's wrong with you now? Clerk—I'm going to get married. Employer—Now, you were away a week with influenza and ten days with a sprained ankle. I declare, there's always something going wrong with you, Jones.

Bills to Suit Circumstances.

"How much will it cost me to get a divorce?" asked the man. "That depends," replied the lawyer absentmindedly. "How much have you got?"—Philadelphia Ledger.

Advantage Mutual.

"Does her family approve of her ambition to go upon the operatic stage?" "Um—er—yes and no—that is, they approve of her going away to sing?"—Detroit Free Press.

Would Have the Fun Afterward.

His Mother—Tommy, if you fight with little Willie Walters today I shall put you to bed for two hours. Tommy—Put me to bed now, ma.

Ask only the well about their health.—Bacon.

A BOOK FIELD WANTED.

The Post Had a Long Search, but It Finally Turned Up.

Eugene Field was a book collector, and one of his favorite jokes, according to the Philadelphia Post, was to enter a bookshop where he was not known and ask in the solemnest manner for an expurgated edition of Mrs. Hemans' poems. One day in Milwaukee he was walking along the street with his friend, George Yenowine, when the latter halted in front of a bookshop and said: "Gene, the proprietor of this place is the most serious man I ever knew. He never saw a joke in his life. Wouldn't it be a good chance to try again for that expurgated Mrs. Hemans?" Without a word Field entered, asked for the proprietor, and then made the usual request. "That is a rather scarce book," came the reply. "Are you prepared to pay a fair price for it?" For just a second Field was taken aback. Then he said, "Certainly, certainly. I—I know it's rare." The man stepped to a case, took out a cheaply bound volume and handed it to Field, saying, "The price is \$5." Field took it nervously, opened to the title page and read in correct print, "The Poems of Mrs. Felicia Hemans. Selected and Arranged With All Objectional Passages Excised by George Yenowine, Editor of Isaac Watts' For the Home." The Fireside Hannah More, etc., with the usual publisher's name and date at the bottom. Field glanced up at the bookseller. He stood there the very picture of sad solemnity. "I'll take it," said Field faintly, producing the money. Outside Yenowine was missing. At his office the boy said that he had just left, saying that he was going to Standing Rock, Dakota, to keep an appointment with Sitting Bull.

EXERCISES FOR HEALTH.

A Little Shaking Up Before Breakfast is a Good Thing.

For almost every person under fifty, and for a great many people over fifty, exercise is the nearest approach to a panacea for bodily ills that has yet been devised. Causing the body to move and stretch and push and pull makes the blood circulate, the liver do its work and the nerves pick up their dropped stitches. An excellent time to exercise is before breakfast. Neither man nor beast, as a rule, goes to sleep hungry. During sleep there is little waste of energy. On waking there is no immediate demand for replenishment of lost tissues. Furthermore, the long sleep has left the nerves and the digestive apparatus dull and leadened. To sit down to a heavy breakfast within fifteen or twenty minutes after getting out of bed means that the stomach receives food which it does not need and will not readily digest.

A little shaking up before breakfast arouses the vitality and consequently makes the appetite and digestion better. That means better work done during the day. If a man can get away from work in time to take additional exercise during the afternoon he will have a better appetite for the evening meal and more power to digest it. That will mean better sleep at night. Many a man has succeeded in the world without paying any attention to his body—Joseph Chamberlain, for instance. But such men would probably have succeeded more easily and certainly with more pleasure to themselves if they had taken care of their bodies. A strong mind is certainly stronger and more enduring in a healthy body than in a sickly one. The best way to keep the body healthy is to use it.—Chicago Tribune.

Temper.

A great source of cruelty is temper. When it is considered what a vast sum of misery temper causes in the world, how many homes are darkened and how many hearts are saddened by it; when we remember that its persecutions have not even the purifying consequences of most other calamities, inasmuch as its effects upon its innocent victims are rather cankerous than medicinal; when we call to mind that a bright face and a bright disposition are like sunshine in a house, and a gloomy, lowering countenance as depressing as an Arctic night, we must acknowledge that temper itself is only another form of cruelty, and a very bad form too.

A Family Problem.

Teacher was explaining the meaning of the word recuperate. "Now, Willie," she said, "if your father worked hard all day he would be tired and all worn out, wouldn't he?" "Yes'm."

"Then when night comes and his work is over for the day, what does he do?" "That's what ma wants to know."—Cleveland Leader.

His Point of View.

"What is your idea of a truly good wife?" asked the youth. "A truly good wife," answered the Cumminsville sage, "is one who loves her husband and her country, but doesn't attempt to run either."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Looking Ahead.

She (bored)—No, Mr. Lytely, I can never love you. I honor and respect you. I am sure you would make some other woman a good husband. I—He—Well—er—could you—er—give me a letter of recommendation to my next place?

Children never know what a safeguard their mother has been to them till after their father is left a widower.—Atchison Globe.

Success may sometimes come unexpectedly, but work alone can hold it.—Murray.

OLD TIME COOKERY.

Curious Recipes That Were in Use in the Fifteenth Century.

An old volume, the "Noble Boke of Cookry, for a Prynce Housholde or any other Estately Housholde," written about the year 1467, contains many rare and curious recipes in use in those days not only for ordinary dishes, but those to be eaten on fast and fish days. It is curious in reading this cookery book to find that there are the same birds, beasts and fishes, the same courses and sometimes the same names to dishes as in a modern one, but, although the names are often the same, the ingredients and the preparation are very different. For instance, their "blanche mangle" was composed of lamprey or other fish, and their custards contained fresh pork minced small.

Here is one recipe from the book: "To make mon amy take and boil cows' cream and when it is boiled set it aside and let it cool. Then take cow curds and press out the whey; then bruise them in a mortar and cast them in the pot to the cream and boil together. Put thereto sugar, honey and may butter, color it up with saffron and in the setting down put in yolks of eggs well beaten and do away the strain and let the potage be standing; then arrange it in dishes and plant therein flowers of violets and serve it."

Some of the recipes in this quaint old book were intended specially for a "lorde's" table. For instance, a pike was to be served whole to "a lorde," but cut in pieces for the "commonalte." Cabbages were to be thickened with grated bread for ordinary people, but served with yolks of eggs for a "lorde." The dishes at this time used at table were either gold or silver for great occasions and wooden trenchers and platters for ordinary use. It was not till the time of Queen Elizabeth that plates of metal and earthenware began to be generally used instead of wood.

WILLS IN ENGLAND.

Interesting Documents That Are on File in Somerset House.

In the heart of London, facing on one side the famous thoroughfare known as the Strand and on the other looking on the Thames, will be found Somerset House, once a private palace, but now devoted to various departments of the inland revenue of Great Britain.

Perhaps the most interesting government department in Somerset House is that devoted to the filing of wills, and, as might be supposed, the collection is immense, varied and extraordinary, ranging from the will of Shakespeare himself (containing practically the only known autograph of the world renowned poet right down to mere curiosities in wills, such as those carved on the lid of a desk or contained within secret cabinets or escutcheons.

Here for 25 cents one may inspect the will of any British person. There are wills leaving immense sums to cats and dogs; wills written in human blood. But the most interesting one has quite a romantic history.

It is the will of a British official who died in Cairo of the plague. Before his death he took care to prepare his will upon parchment procured from the skin of a freshly killed goat, but as he handled this skin himself it was thought later on that the will might have the power of transmitting the dreadful plague from which its writer died. Accordingly, after having been passed from hand to hand with somewhat disastrous results in the way of plague and death, the will was put into a bottle of spirits. Arrived at Somerset House, the will was read to the next of kin and deposited among the archives of the department.—Kansas City Independent.

Way to Avoid Annoyance.

"I understand," he said, "that you are reported to be engaged."

"I believe some one has taken the liberty of starting such a rumor," she replied.

"Well, don't you think it would be easier to make the rumor true than to go to the trouble and annoyance of denying it?" he suggested.

"Perhaps you are right," she admitted. "Such denials are always ineffective in addition to being more or less distressing."—Chicago Post.

A Modest Briton.

Like the traditional Englishman, Arthur Stanley, dean of Westminster, wore home from his first visit to America an expression of amazement which only time could efface. He was at once beset by interviewers, says the author of "Out of the Past," who asked the usual questions.

"What was the thing which most impressed you in America?" was one of these. Without a moment's hesitation Dean Stanley replied: "My own ignorance."

A Royal Compliment.

Mgr. de Nozmond, archbishop of Toulouse, when preaching one day in the private chapel of Louis XIV, lost the thread of his discourse, so that he had to remain silent for some time. The king came to his lordship's relief with this graceful remark: "I am very glad, my lord, that you are giving me a little time to digest all the good things contained in the former part of your sermon."

How She Took It.

Harry—Here is a conundrum: When two an odd and lucky number? Celia—You know I never can guess conundrums. Harry—When two are made one. Celia—Oh, Harry! This is so sudden!—Town Topics.

Life is the finest of the fine arts. It has to be learned with lifelong patience, and the years of our pilgrimage are all too short to master it triumphantly.—Drummond.

Don't Buy a Dollar's Worth of Goods until you visit **RUMER'S STORE**. You must see the goods to realize the prices we are making. We invite you, your family and friends to visit our store and get our prices.

<p>Dry Goods</p> <p>5,000 yards Prints, per yard at..... 3 1/2 to 5c 2,000 yards Gingham at per yard..... 5c Outing Flannels per yd 5 to 7 1/2c Percales to per yd..... 5 to 7 1/2c Novelty Dress Goods, worth 25c at per yard..... 12 1/2c Black Mohair Dress Goods at per yard..... 10 and 15c Thousands of yards Dress Goods per yard..... 20 to 50c</p> <p>Hundreds of yards of Silks and Ribbons, Velvets, Velvets, Laces, Embroideries, Flannels, Table Linen, Bed Spreads, Muslins, Comforts, Blankets, Rugs, Hosiery, Fascinators, Corsets, Ladies' and Children's Underwear.</p>	<p>Cloaks</p> <p>Furs</p> <p>These goods we must dispose of regardless of cost. See what we offer:</p> <p>One lot of 50 Ladies' all wool Kersey and Chiviot short jackets, worth \$5.00 to 8.00, sale price, \$2.00, 2.50 and 3.50.</p> <p>One lot of Ladies' medium length jackets, regular price, \$8.50 to 15.00; sale price, \$4.50, 6.50 and 8.50.</p> <p>One lot Ladies' long cloaks and tourist' coats, regular price, 12.00, 15.00 and 20.00; sale price, 6.00, 9.00 and 12.00.</p> <p>All our Ladies' Tailor Made suits must go with the cloaks. We make them up in two lots, All our suits go at \$5, 6 and \$7.</p> <p>All our 18, 20 and 22.50 suits go at 10 and 15.</p> <p>We place on sale one lot of 50 Children's cloaks, regular price, 3.00, 5.00 and 7.00; sale price, 1.75, 3.00 and 4.50.</p>	<p>Clothing</p> <p>For Men and Boys—The price will be lower than you have ever known for high grade, finely Tailored goods.</p> <p>We place on sale 500 pairs of Men's pants, worth \$2.50, 3.50 and 5.00; sale price, \$1.50, 2.50 and 3.50.</p> <p>300 Men's all wool, finely tailored and trimmed, Serges, Chiviot and Worsted suits, good values at \$10, \$12 and \$15; sale price, \$8, \$9 and \$11.</p> <p>We offer 100 Men's Overcoats regular price, \$10, \$12.50, \$15 and \$20; sale price, \$7.50, \$11 and \$14.</p> <p>Cheap Satinet and Cheviot Overcoats \$2.50, \$3.50 and \$5.</p> <p>We have about 150 Boys' and Children's suits. The lines are badly broken. We place the entire lot on sale at 25 per cent less than cost to clean out.</p> <p>We place on sale 200 pairs Men's blue denim overalls at 40c per pair.</p> <p>Boys' Overalls 20c per pair.</p> <p>Boys' Fleece 35 and 50c Underwear, 25 and 35c.</p> <p>Men's 50 and 75c Underwear, 35 and 50c.</p> <p>Engineers' and Firemen's \$1.50 long gauntlet Gloves, \$1.00.</p> <p>Medium Gauntlets, 85c.</p> <p>Cheap Gloves, 20, 35 and 50c.</p> <p>Men's \$2.50 and \$3, all wool blue and brown Flannel shirts at \$1.75.</p> <p>Men's 75c work and dress shirts, 35 and 45c.</p> <p>Boy's work and dress shirts, 15 and 35c.</p> <p>Men's \$5 and \$7.50 Mackintoshes, \$3 to \$5.</p>
--	---	---

Shoes

Our entire line of Ladies', Children's and Men's Shoes and Overshoes all go on sale with other goods.

Our Ladies' \$2, 2.50 and 3.50 Shoes, we sell for \$1.50, 2.00 2.75

Our Men's \$2.00, 3.50 and 5.00 Shoes we sell for \$2.00, 2.50, 3.50

Our Men's Snow Excider \$1.50 Overshoe we sell at \$1.10; our \$1.00 overshoe at..... 75c

Children's Snow Excider Overshoes..... 35 and 45c

Trunks

Our entire line of Trunks goes on sale at half regular price.

The Knife Goes Into Our Grocery Stock and Slashes Prices as in Other Departments. We Sell

Oatmeal, per lb..... 3c	Pumpkins, per can..... 8c	Rice, per lb..... 5c
Sardines, per can..... 3 1/2c	Raspberries, per can..... 10c	Raisins, per lb..... 6 1/2c
Pork and Beans, per can..... 6c	June Peas, per can..... 10c	Currants, per pkg..... 7 1/2c
Soup, per can..... 6c	Molasses, per can..... 10c	Evaporated Peaches..... 10c
Oysters, per can..... 7 1/2c	Soda, per pkg..... 5c	Evaporated Apples..... 8 1/2c
Potted Ham, per can..... 7 1/2c	Corn Starch, per pkg..... 5c	Evaporated Apricots..... 12 1/2c
Salmon, per can..... 10c	Gloss Starch, per pkg..... 5c	Cups and Saucers per set..... 25c
Cream, per can..... 10c	Birdseed, per pkg..... 5c	Glass Butter Dish..... 10c
Tomatoes, per can..... 8c	Lamp Chimneys..... 5c	Glass Syrup Pitcher..... 10c
Corn, per can..... 8c	15c Baking Powder..... 10c	Fancy Decorated Caps & Sauc..... 10c
Strawberries, per can..... 8c	Quaker Oats..... 10c	Glass Celery Dish..... 10c

Every Man, Woman and Child will Profit by Attending This Sale

RUMER'S BIG DEPARTMENT STORE
ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA

The Winter Season Is here.

So are We With Special Prices on provisions of all kinds. Call in and see us before buying.

Lee Acheson

'Phone No. 4.

For Fine Boot and Shoe Repairing

CALL ON

I. D. NICHOLS

Also has in stock a new line of GENTS' SHOES of the best manufacture and at prices that will suit. Call and examine the stock before you buy and you will save money.

At R. Madsen's old stand, first door south of Cigar Factory.

J. Rowan

DEALER IN

FLOUR and FEED

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

HANDLES THE

Celebrated Ravenna Flour

At Pilkington's old stand, phone No. 71.

HUMPHRY ★

:: Undertaking and :: Embalming Company



Calls answered promptly day or night.

Claude Humphry, Undertaker.

Mrs. Humphry, Lady Assistant

Residence phone 269.

ZBINDEN BROS., DEALERS IN.....

Flour and Feed.

"Home Comfort" ★ Flour

Is Our Leader. Try It....

'PHONE 105.

WEST SIDE MAIN STREET.

Contractor and Builder.

Turning and Scroll Work and all Kinds of Shop Work....

Estimates Furnished

GEO. G. GADSBY,

Brick Shop West of Alliance National Bank, Alliance, Neb.

PHONE 400.

For a Full Line of... **Staple AND Fancy Groceries**

Best Coffees, Finest Teas, Superior Flours,

That Can't be Beat in Town....

Queensware, Tinware and Enameled ware

CALL ON Yours for Fair Dealing.

A. D. RODGERS.

Wm. James, Exclusive Dealer in

COAL & WOOD

'Phone Alliance, No. 5. Nebraska.

FRED BRENNAN

Plumbing Steam and hot water Heating.

'Phone No. 356. ALLIANCE, NEB